News release

Typhoon Ma-on targets Japanese Grand Prix

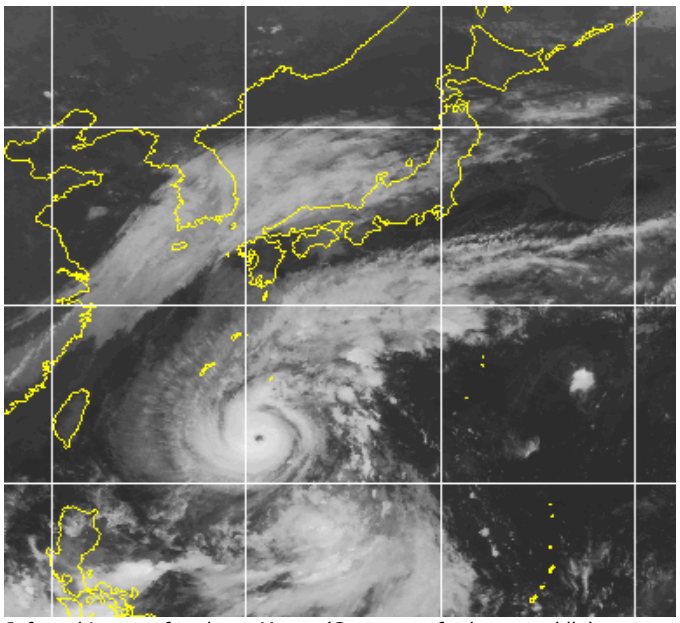
7 October 2004

Typhoon Ma-on is heading straight for Japan and could wreck the F1 qualifying day on Saturday with high winds and torrential rain.

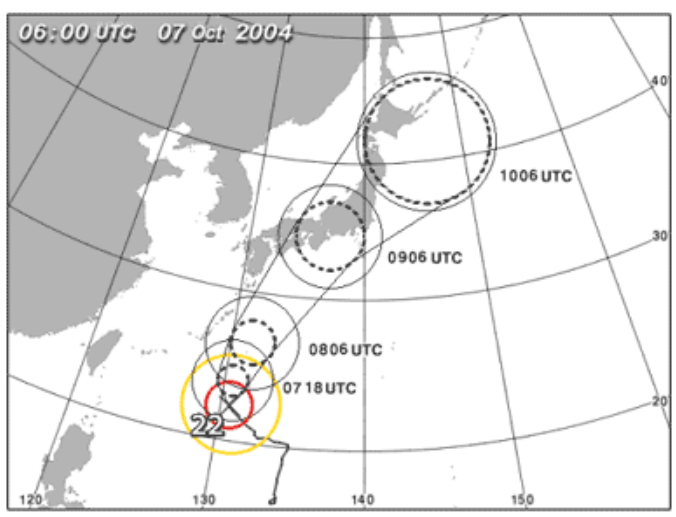
Ma-on currently has 100 m.p.h. winds near its centre and the storm is forecast to track north and weaken, crossing close to Suzuka on Saturday before heading away from the area for race-day itself.

This tropical cyclone season has been the most active on record for Japan, but very quiet across parts of south-east Asia such as the Philippines and southern China. This is because the dominant high pressure systems in the area have forced tropical cyclones to turn northwards towards Japan rather than allowing them on a more westerly track. Ma-on will be the ninth tropical cyclone to hit Japan this year beating the previous record of six.

JMA, the Japanese weather service are working with the main national meteorological services from around the world such as the Met Office and NOAA to produce the best estimate of the typhoon's strength and track.



Infrared image of typhoon Ma-on (Cantonese for horse saddle)



Ma-on's track from the 7th at 1800 UTC to the 10th at 0600 UTC

More about tropical cyclones

Japanese Meteorological Agency, Tokyo

For further information:
Met Office Press Office +44 (0)1392 886655
E-mail: pressoffice@metoffice.gov.uk

Met Office Customer Centre 0870 900 0100
If you're outside the UK +44 (0)1392 885680

© Crown copyright

PRINTABLE VERSION

About
Met Office
Hadley Centre
International role
Library and archive
How to find us
Job vacancies
Contract opportunities
Terms and conditions
Accessibility

News
News release archive
Media Centre

Learn
About the weather
From the bookshelf

Services
Mobile forecasts
Weathercall
Marinecall
Monthly Outlook
MetWEB withdrawal
Talk to a forecaster

Contact
Contact us
FAQ